

**SALTON SEA
DATA MANAGEMENT WORKING GROUP
MEETING NOTES**

APRIL 2, 2008

10:00 – 4:00

**California Department of Fish and Game
Ontario, CA**

Welcome and Introductions

Kristina White (DFG) welcomed the attendees and led introductions of those present (see attached list).

Draft Data Management Plan

Prior to the meeting, DFG had distributed a Draft Data Management Plan. Kristina led meeting attendees through a review and discussion of the plan.

Objective #1, Define contract and budget expectations for Data Management

- It was agreed to modify the contract language to delete the word “spatial”, thereby requiring that all data collected and created under new data collection contracts would be a required deliverable.
- It was also agreed to change the contract language to read that the data will “become the property of the State of California”.
- It was discussed that since the data will become the property of the State, it will be considered public data.
- With regard to the role of DFG in providing “database design review”, the intent is that DFG would be provided an early opportunity to assess proposed databases for minimal compatibility, thereby allowing for the final product to be easily integrated into DFG’s system.
- With regard to data management budgets, it was confirmed that each data collection task order should include scope and budget for the execution of data management activities in accordance with the data management plan.

Objective #2, Establish and enforce standards for data documentation.

Metadata standards were reviewed and discussed. It was agreed that all contracts that include collection of new data contain language requiring delivery of ESRI compatible data and metadata that meets the BIOS metadata standards and FGDC metadata standards.

Objective #3, Establish data transfer and storage protocol

Leads from each focused technical group (FTG) provided a summary of the anticipated data collection efforts and current ideas for data management.

Air Quality

Chuck Keene (DWR) provided the Air Quality FTG update. The Air Quality FTG is in the process of developing a baseline air quality monitoring plan, which will include the installation and operation of several new air quality monitoring stations in the vicinity of the Sea. The stations will collect sub-hourly data. Initially, the stations will be tied into the California Air Resources Board (CARB) data management system, which houses hourly data. Currently, the hourly CARB data are available in real-time (<http://www.arb.ca.gov/aqgm/mldagsb/amn.htm>), although the sub-hourly data are not web-available. CARB's current practice is to maintain sub-hourly datasets for a period of two years, after which the data are no longer maintained. The Air Quality monitoring plan may include future activities or assessment needs that would require that sub-hourly data be maintained indefinitely. At this point, it has not been determined if CARB would be the appropriate caretaker of those data, or if the Resources Agency would need to identify an alternative long-term storage approach.

In addition to the baseline air quality monitoring stations, focused investigations may be identified that would call for additional data management. These investigations are scheduled to begin in 3 to 5 years.

An additional data management need is a repository for reports and analyses that are developed.

Water Quality

Jerry Boles (DWR) provided the Hydrologic FTG update. Jerry explained that there are essentially two types of hydrologic data: continuous measurements and discrete (grab) measurements. Examples of continuous data include flow and continuous logger measurements (e.g. temperature) taken at single location. Flow measurements are typically housed in specialized databases that include the capability to correct data for "shifts" due to changes in the streambed and continuous logger measurements could be housed in spreadsheets or databases. USGS operates the National Water Information System (NWIS) database, which houses flow and water quality data. DWR operates the CDEC database, which houses flow data, as well as some water quality data.

Discrete data include chemical data (nutrients, metals, etc.). They can include a grab sample with no vertical component, as well as profile samples in which multiple samples can be collected at the same site at various depths. These lab results included the measured concentrations, along with lab QA/QC data such as calibration information, spike and duplicate samples.

With regard to data storage, there are several options, including use of the Redlands Imperial Valley database, a DWR water quality database, STORET, or a new database.

The decision regarding which database will be the program standard has yet to be made.

Water quality monitoring activities will likely start next year.

Biology

Biological data will include bird survey information and other species related information that is routinely collected by DFG.

Objective #4, Make data easily accessible and in a useable format.

Access to the data would be through BIOS, which is an internet map viewer. Currently, BIOS is running on ArcIMS technology, which does not allow for easy integration of data from outside sources. However, DFG is working on updating BIOS to ArcGIS Server technology which would allow for this integration. This upgrade would provide the capability to bring in data housed elsewhere and display it in a single map viewer.

DFG will distribute metadata to clearinghouse to make it widely available. The group reviewed each bullet item under objective 4, including DFG's document library, DFG's data dictionary, and the desire to include derived data products (reports, graphs, etc.) in the submittal to BIOS.

There was a lengthy discussion regarding the protocol for submittal of data. In general, data will be submitted first to the agency Contract Manager, since that person is responsible for determining if the data products meet the intent and requirements of the contract. The Contract Manager, DFG, and the contractor could coordinate in the transmittal of data from the contractor to DFG.

Objective #5, Perform a retrospective analysis on existing data sets.

The overall MAP identifies a need to perform a retrospective analysis on existing data sets. Through the Focused Technical Group development of the individual monitoring and assessment plans (air quality, hydrologic, biology, socioeconomic, and engineering/geology/geography), FTG leads will communicate back the data management team about data cataloging and acquisition needs.

Additional discussion among the FTGs is necessary to identify what existing datasets warrant a retrospective analysis. DFG is available to assist in compiling the datasets and distributing them for the analysis.

**Salton Sea
Data Management
Focused Technical Group (FTG)**

April 2, 2008
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